Service Date: December 2, 1991

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER Of The Application	) UTILITY DIVISION	1
Of TOWN OF KEVIN For Authority To	) DOCKET NO. 91.1	1.50
Increase Charges For Natural Gas	) INTERIM ORDER	NO. 5583
Service.	)	
	)	

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. TOWN OF KEVIN (Applicant) applied to this Commission for an order authorizing an increase in the rates Applicant charges for natural gas service. The application sought authority to increase rates in order to reflect all costs resulting from rates granted The Montana Power Company (Company) in Docket Nos. 90.1.1 and 91.10.44
- 2. The Commission's Order Nos. 5474c and 5579 granted Montana Power Company's natural gas rates.
  - 3. These orders will result in an increased net purchased gas cost to Applicant.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Applicant is a "public utility" within the meaning of Section 69-3-101, MCA.
- 2. The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over the Applicant's Montana operations pursuant to Title 69, Chapter 3, MCA.
- 3. Section 69-3-304, MCA, provides in part, "The Commission may, in its discretion, temporarily approve increases or decreases pending a hearing or final decision."

4. The rate levels and spread approved herein are reasonable. The rebate provisions of Section 69-3-304, MCA protect ratepayers in the event that any revenue authorized by this order are found to be unjustified in the final order in this Docket.

## **ORDER**

- 1. Applicant is hereby granted interim relief reflecting Findings of Fact in this order.
- 2. Such relief is to become effective for services rendered on and after November , 1991, and remain in effect until such time as a final decision is reached in this matter.
  - 3. The rates shall be collected upon a constant uniform cents per Mcf basis.
- 4. Interim revenues granted herein are subject to rebate should the final order in this Docket disapprove this interim revenue.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana this 4th day of November by a 5 - 0 vote.

NOTE:

## BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

	HOWARD L. ELLIS, Chairman
	DANNY OBERG, Vice Chairman
	BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner
	JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner
	WALLACE W "WALLY" MEDCED, Commissioner
	WALLACE W. "WALLY" MERCER, Commissioner
ATTEST:	
Ann Peck	
Commission Secretary	
(SEAL)	

Any interested party may request that the Commission reconsider this decision. A

motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.